



Headway

South East London / North West Kent





Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Headway SE London NW Kent services cover the local authority areas of

**Southwark, Lambeth, Lewisham, Greenwich,
Bexley, Bromley, Dartford.**



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Headway SE London NW Kent have supported the right of individuals surviving brain injury and stroke to lead and fulfilling and meaningful life for the past 25 years.



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Headway SE London NW Kent advocates and encourages opportunities for survivors to do as much as they can independently, yet recognises and recommends appropriate support when it is needed.

Headway SELNWK has an holistic approach that ensures the survivor and their families needs are paramount.



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Most of Headways SEL/NWK clients will have long-term or permanent needs as a consequence of their brain injury.

Headway SELNWK understands and expects that the needs of each individual will change over time

Headway SELNWK services are person centred and imaginative but cannot begin to work until survivors and families are referred to Headway services.



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



I have been asked to speak to you today in relation to our work with survivors and families

And to focus in particular on the journey we have had in establishing a need for localised Headway services and looking at early support services following clinical care.



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Over 6 years ago Headway SELNWK recognised that the referrals we were receiving, for our Headway service, were for people who were in excess of 2 and 3 years post injury

Survivors and families were presenting with very complex needs with issues around general health, housing, relationships, finance in addition to their cognitive needs



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Most survivors and families had stories that told about a complete lack of support when living back in the community following discharge from clinical care.

At the same time Headway SELNWK Trustees were looking at our own support services, this was mainly focused on developing and outreaching to boroughs within our area that needed localised support.

The Southwark area became our main focus for development, as Southwark was some distance for our main Headway service



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Following many consultations with professionals, survivors and families and any interested parties within Southwark the outcome was clear

A localised services was what was most needed and for that localised service to work closely with the local hospital (Kings College)

There was a great deal of support for Headway services within the area from those who had been involved in consultations.



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



People came forward offering clinical staff supervision, Office space, and after some negotiation, a Honnary contract with Kings College Hospital, that would enable Headway to work within the Neuro wards offering advice and support to survivors and families.

**All of the above was a huge step in the right direction but one thing was still high on the priority list
Funding to run the service....**

There then followed many meetings, proposals and presentations for the proposed service to the commissioners within Southwark but unfortunately the project was not statically viable as it had no prior history



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Determined not to let this ruin our plans Headway SELNWK made an application to obtain a start up grant for outreach services from the Ajahama Trust and Lloyds TSB this was successful

The above grants would allow Headway SELNWK to employ an outreach coordinator 3 days per week but we still needed the development aspect to the project,

The Headway Trustees then agreed that some of the small reserves we held should go to support the project.

The role of the full time outreach and development coordinator was then confirmed for 2 years



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



The outreach / development coordinators role was to set up an outreach service in the Southwark area.

and

Develop services to ensure Headway had a defined role in providing early support, advice, guidance, sign posting and case managing from the critical point of injury

our belief was that this service provision would help determine the long-term outcome of the survivor and family in relation to independence, inclusion and equality, and that each individual surviving brain injury and family would have the opportunity to follow a pathway that would fully understand and support their individual needs



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



The Southwark outreach service was a challenge to set up in many ways and included a change of venue on several occasions, eventually establishing itself 1 day per week in a Healthy living centre (Darwin Court, Crail row Southwark)



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



After a period of time the outreach centre became well attended with a capacity of 20 people there was always an average of 14 people in attendance

professionals supporting people with brain injuries started to refer to the service.

A caseload began to build

(At this point the service was free of charge to enable Headway to identify an actual need for Headway services within the area)



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



As the outreach service was now established, and a resource to refer to, it was time to explore the development of Headway early support services

Headway commenced 1 day per week on the Murray Faulkner ward of Kings College Hospital

At first it was difficult to integrate with the nursing staff on the ward the nursing staff were all extremely busy and did not have time to communicate with Headway.

Headway used the time on the wards to speak to families and patients and assist where possible.



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Headway were given use of a small meeting room and from this point the Kings case work began to develop

Headway were then invited to join the Neuro ward multidisciplinary team meetings, the role for Headway in these meetings was to pick up on patients and families being discharged back into the community.

The work within kings and outreach services began to build over the next 2 years and there was a great deal of evidence to show that Headway services were making a difference to the lives of survivors and families

Kings expressed that the Headway project was a model of good practice



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Headway had also taken up office space at the young persons disability team in the local PCT this further establishing Headway within the locality.

At this point it was time to go back to the commissioners with evidence of the need for Headway services but again Headway faced disappointment with funding

A lottery application was made to support the work but the application was declined in the final stages.

Headway were then faced with a hard decision, should we give up on the project or support the project ourselves



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



The Headway trustees decided that we had come too far to let this happen and Headway would carry on supporting survivors and families within Southwark.

The downside to this was that we did not have the resources to further develop either the outreach service or the services at Kings and there became a holding situation

The outreach / development coordinator continued working within the locality, the outreach service was not developing but was becoming a known part of the local community



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Kings on the other hand was continuing to change and develop, new staff joined kings who could see the value of Headway services and Headway began to become an established part of the team

Headway extended its services to other Neuro wards and The Frank Cooksey clinical rehab ward, The Lishman Unit and the Maudsley

Kings began to develop a Neuro team that had an interest in life after brain injury and often met with Headway trying to establish a way forward for development of Headway services within the Hospital



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Again it was time to review the service Headway trustees could see there was now two very different projects

**It was decided that we would again look at funding options
For the two projects**



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



A joint proposal with the Neuro wards was made to the Kings College Trust.

The trust have now agreed to support half of the total project cost for two years and negotiations are well underway with other funders that will ensure this project survives

Full funding will enable Headway to employ a early intervention coordinator full time with support staff

This will also enable Headway to work within our other local hospitals using this project as a model of good practice



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



The outreach service has also begun to develop

again changes within Southwark have lead to acknowledgement of the Headway localised brain injury service and agreement was made to pay for member attendance to the outreach service

Through continual networking we also have agreement to further integrate into the community by becoming a service for survivors within the Aylesbury centre.

This will give us development opportunities to the future



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



The outreach and kings project will continue to work closely together there is some discussion that kings may develop services to include community clinics and Headway will very much be part of this within our area

At this point in time where there are changes being made, due to consultation on the Trauma centres for London

Headway SELNWK feels we are now in a good position to support survivors and families to the future.



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



If there is a message to give at the end of this particular chapter it would be to state that survivors of brain injury and carers are a very unrepresented group who suffer deprivation because of the cognitive nature of their injuries due to lack of support

More recognition is needed and resources made available to help rebuild lives

Headway SELNWK knows that early intervention and Headway services make a difference because we now have the statistics to prove it....



Headway

South East London / North West Kent



Thank You